

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to amend Title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government Pension Offset Provision.

WHEREAS, the Government Pension Offset Provision reduces public employees' Social Security spousal or survival benefits by up to two-thirds of their public pension; and

WHEREAS, the Government Pension Offset Provision has inequitable effects on many teachers, firefighters, police, postal workers, and others who have struggled their entire working careers to supplement family budgets and retirement savings with part-time and summer jobs where they paid into Social Security; and

WHEREAS, the National Education Association estimates that some 300,000 individuals are losing an average of \$3,600 a year to the Government Pension Offset Provision; and

WHEREAS, nine out of ten public employees affected by the Government Pension Offset Provision lose their entire spousal benefit, even though their spouse paid Social Security taxes for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Government Pension Offset Provision impacts the teaching profession, as individuals who worked in other careers are less likely to desire to become educators if doing so will result in the loss of earned Social Security benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Government Pension Offset Provision has the severest effect on widowed lower-income women, who have worked hard for years and can least afford reduced benefits; and

WHEREAS, the amounts lost due to the Government Pension Offset Provision can make the difference between self-sufficiency and poverty; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky is one of the 15 states most impacted by the Government Pension Offset Provision; and

WHEREAS, bipartisan legislation concerning the repeal of the Government Pension Offset Provision was introduced in the 114th Congress;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:*

☐ Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly respectfully urges the United States Congress to amend Title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government Pension Offset Provision.

☐ Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States and the members of the Kentucky Congressional Delegation.